



Thursday, November 6, 2014

7:30 pm. Walter Hall

U of T 12TET

Terry Promane, director

with special guest

Ralph Alessi, trumpet

Emerald Dreams

Composer Arranger: Angela Turone

Solos: Anthony Argatoff, Tom Fleming

M

Composer: Donny McCaslin

Arranger: Terry Promane

Solos: Bradley Eaton, Anthony Argatoff, Tom Fleming

Hands

Composer: Ralph Alessi

Arranger: Terry Promane

Solos: Alex Lakusta, Emily Denison

It's Just A Toy

Composer: Ralph Alessi

Arranger: Terry Promane

Solos: Bryan Gilmartin, Mike Wark

Chuck Barris

Composer: Ralph Alessi

Arranger: Tom Fleming

Solos: Tom Fleming, Mike Rajna

Wiry Strong

Composer: Ralph Alessi

Orchestration: Terry Promane

A Plenty

Composer: Ralph Alessi

Arranger: Terry Promane

Solos: Paul Tarrusov

Morbid Curiosity

Composer: Ralph Alessi

Arranger: Jim Lewis

Solos: Anthony Argatoff, Ralph Alessi

The Faculty of Music gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our presenting sponsors.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO 12TET

Laura Swankey - voice (Vancouver, BC. B.Mus)
Anthony Argatoff - alto sax (Kelowna, BC. B.Mus)
Mike Wark - tenor sax (Toronto, ON M.Mus)
Brad Eaton - trumpet/flugelhorn (Oakville, ON. B.Mus)
Emily Denison - trumpet/flugelhorn (Ottawa, ON. B.Mus)
Paul Tarrusov - trombone (Montreal, QC. DMA)
Modibo Keita - trombone (Montreal, QC. B.Mus)
Jay Peterson - piano (Burlington, ON. B.Mus)
Bryan Gilmartin - vibraphone/marimba (Wawa, ON. B.Mus)
Tom Fleming - guitar (Toronto, ON M.Mus)
Alex Lakusta - upright bass (Edmonton, AB. B.Mus)
Mike Rajna - drums (Waterloo, ON. B.Mus)

The band would like to extend a huge thanks to Josh Stuckey, who helped us prepare for this concert by playing Ralph's part in rehearsals.

The **University of Toronto 12tet** is a contemporary ensemble comprised of students in the Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate programs. Since its creation in 2012, the ensemble has established itself as a vehicle for elite players and composers in the jazz performance program and beyond. The band has been featured many times at the Rex Hotel and U of T's Walter Hall with guests who rank among Canada's most prominent jazz musicians. The 12tet recorded and released its first album, *Rebirth* in 2013.

Smaller than a traditional big band, the 12-piece format allows more freedom for soloists while still offering a wide range of ensemble textures. The 12tet sound pays tribute to classic bands, taking cues from Art Pepper Plus 11 and The Rob McConnell Tentet, but also steps further by embracing more contemporary rhythmic and harmonic inspirations.

Onstage, the band is self-directed. In the rehearsal studio, the 12tet is led by Terry Promane (Director of Jazz Studies), known for his work with many JUNO award winning and nominated bands including The Dave Young/Terry Promane Octet, Mike Murley Septet, The Rob McConnell Tentet, The John MacLeod Orchestra, The Carn/Davidson 9 and The Kirk MacDonald Jazz Orchestra.

Ralph Alessi was born in San Francisco, CA, the son of classical trumpeter Joe Alessi and opera singer Maria Leone. But after taking degrees in jazz trumpet and bass—he studied under the legendary Charlie Haden at CalArts—he lit out for New York, where he swiftly became an ubiquitous presence on the downtown scene. He's been a frequent collaborator with such notable musicians as Steve Coleman, Jason Moran, Don Byron, Ravi Coltrane, Fred Hersch, Uri Caine and Dafnis Prieto. Alessi has recorded nine albums of original compositions which draw on everything from post-bop to neo classical music. *Jazz Times* named *This Against That*'s debut outing one of the ten best recordings of 2002 and in 2010, Alessi released *Cognitive Dissonance* which received a 4 star review from *Downbeat* magazine and was included in *The New Republic*'s top ten list of records of 2011. In 2013, Ralph will release *Baida*, a quartet CD on ECM records and *Only Many*, a duo recording with pianist Fred Hersch on CAMJazz.

As an educator, Alessi has been a member of the faculty of the Eastman School of Music and is currently the founder and director of the School for Improvisational Music (www.schoolforimprov.org), a non-profit entity currently holding improvisational music workshops in New York City and abroad. Since 2002, he has been on the jazz faculty at New York University and this fall will begin teaching at New England Conservatory.